

Marine Wing Support Squadron 172 Commanding Officer's Policy Statement on Sexual Assault Prevention and Response



We must strive every day to create a safe environment and a climate of respect and dignity. Sexual Assault is an attack on the dignity of another, whether it is a Marine, Sailor, or civilian. It is inconsistent with our Core Values and it detracts from unit readiness, trust, and cohesion. It is a **crime under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ)** and it will **not be tolerated**.

Squadron Policy 1752.1B guides our actions on Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR). Our program focuses on risk reduction, education and training, response, and reporting. The Squadron will also fully support sexual assault investigations and legal/administrative actions as appropriate.

What to do?

- 1. Receive education and training on sexual assault prevention and response including: definition and types of sexual assault, definition of consent, types of reporting, responsibilities for reporting, bystander intervention methods, consequences of sexual assault, and ways to remain vigilant against sexual assault.
- 2. Remain vigilant to defend against sexual assault. Drink responsibly, have a liberty buddy, and have a plan to mitigate risks and hazards.
- 3. Look out for each other. Know how to recognize a potential sexual assault and intervene when necessary to prevent it. Hold each other accountable for actions and behaviors.
- 4. If you are a victim of sexual assault, then you are encouraged to report it. Know your options for reporting, and report the incident through restricted or unrestricted reporting channels. Victims will be treated fairly, with dignity and sensitivity, and without prejudice. Victims will be provided the opportunity to seek help and start the actions to receive care.
- 5. You are mandated to report incidents of sexual assault that **come under your observation** (witness a sexual assault) and shall immediately notify one of the Squadron's SAPR Victim Advocates (VA).

The Squadron and Company SAPR VAs are posted throughout the Squadron's facilities and barracks. You may also contact the Squadron SAPR VA duty cellphone at 090-6861-5163, the Sexual Assault Hotline at 645-HOPE (on base), 098-970-HOPE (off base), or the DoD Safe Helpline at 877-995-5247.

The Squadron's priorities regarding Sexual Assault reporting and follow-on actions will be: care and safety of the victim, protection of the victim's privacy, incident reporting (per policy), follow-on administrative actions (e.g. expedited transfer, military protective orders), investigative support, and other legal or administrative actions.

We must all do our part to prevent sexual assault. All FIREBIRDS deserve a safe environment free of the threat of sexual assault.

J.S. PRYOR

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